

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 9/23/2011 has been considered by the examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

The application is allowable for the reasons previously set forth in the Allowability notice filed 7/22/2011. The reference provided and disclosed in the newly submitted information disclosure statement (Ashburner et al. "Multimodal Image Coregistration and Partitioning – A Unified Framework", Neuroimage 6, 209-217, 1997), while disclosing related technical material, fails to disclose or render obvious the limitations as claimed by the instant application; specifically lacking any disclosure related to

- a) generating a first transformed image from the first image, **in which characteristic image features of the first imaging method are reduced or characteristic image features of the second imaging method are intensified**, where the first transformed image and the first image are different images;
- b) generating a second transformed image from the second image, in which, **optionally characteristic image features of the second imaging method are reduced and optionally, characteristic image features of the first imaging method are intensified**, where the second transformed image and the second image are different images, **where areas of at least one of the transformed images are**

masked and where at least one of the imaging methods does not supply reliable information; in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 1 for example.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THOMAS CONWAY whose telephone number is (571)270-5851. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8AM - 5PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella can be reached on (571) 272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thomas A. Conway/

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Examiner, Art Unit 2624

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